are not distressed because the prevailing market prices of chilli are remunerative to the farmers.

(b) Does not arise.

Information regarding high quality seeds

†1049. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh steps have been taken for provising information regarding high quality seeds to the poor farmers of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any concrete steps, providing information about and to provide high quality seeds, to farmers of inaccessible areas throughout the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Information on seeds is disseminated to farmers by agricultural extension personnel, State Agricultural Universities, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, etc. through leaflets, pamphlets, radio and television programmes, articles in newspapers and periodicals, distribution of seeds minikits, field demonstrations, awareness campaigns, Krishak Goshthis, Rythu Bazars, Kisan Melas and Agriculture Exhibitions, etc.

(c) and (d) Quality seeds are made available in remote areas through sales outlets of Agriculture Extension Centres, Cooperatives, Seed Corporations and private seed dealers.

Availability of mixed breed seeds

†1050. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for easy availability of sophisticated mixed breed seeds, produced indigenously and abroad, for the farmers of all the States of the country;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether adequate quantity of above seeds have been distributed to each State during each of the last three years;

(d) whether Government have issued any specific guidelies to State Governments in respect of the scheme for high quality mixed breed seeds; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Special facilities to farmers against drought and floods

†1051. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide any special grant or facilities to farmers, in view of the drought and floods situation throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to enact any law to provide benefits to farmers through the schemes, as available to Government servants; and

(d) if so, by when and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) There is ready availability of funds with the States under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for undertaking immediate relief measures in the wake of natural calamities, Further assistance, for natural calamities of severe nature, is considered from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), in accordance with a set procedure.

(c) and (d) No Such proposal is at present under consideration.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.